

**The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University**

**Ohio State Engineer**

**Title:** This War, in Which We Have Been Active Has Been Progressing for 37 Years

**Creators:** Dietz, David

**Issue Date:** 1941-12

**Publisher:** Ohio State University, College of Engineering

**Citation:** Ohio State Engineer, vol. 25, no. 2 (December, 1941), 6, 20.

**URI:** <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/35803>

# This War, in Which We Have Been Active Has Been Progressing for 37 Years

By David Dietz, Science Service Ed. — Edited by William Horton, Engr. I

National defense makes this year's Christmas Seal Campaign of the National Tuberculosis Association

## CHRISTMAS SEALS



**Protect Your Home  
from Tuberculosis**

more important than ever, for national defense requires that we fight the dread disease of tuberculosis harder than ever.

This year's Seal, a lighthouse shedding its bright beam into the darkness, symbolizes the work of The National Tuberculosis Association, a beacon light for the nation pointing the way to the conquest of tuberculosis.

### Artist and Theme of Seal

"Steven Dohanos, a native of Lorain, Ohio, in designing the 1941 Christmas Health Seal, conceived the lighthouse as the symbol of tuberculosis work, spreading light, leading the way to safety", stated Dr. Kennon Dunham, Cincinnati, president of the Ohio Public Health Association, when he disclosed the theme of this year's Seal. "Lighthouses dot the shores of the United States just as the tuberculosis associations dot the cities and towns, warning and guiding the people against treacherous currents and the shoals of indifference to a serious health problem", continued Dr. Dunham.

It was soon after he had begun to show his work and had earned national recognition that Dohanos, muralist and illustrator, discovered that he had tuberculosis. The temptation to risk regaining his health while keeping up his work was great, but Dohanos made his decision and went to Saranac Lake, N. Y., where he underwent a period of treatment and complete rest. Less than three years from that time, Dohanos was chosen by the Treasury Art Project in Washington to do paintings in the Virgin Islands for federal buildings. Back in the United States since 1937, he has continued his work in the fine arts field, recently completing two mural projects.

"In studying the 1941 Seal", said Dr. Dunham, "one cannot help feeling that Mr. Dohanos was inspired by the light of knowledge which guided him back to health, his work and a normal, happy life."

### Benefits From Christmas Seals

Ninety-five per cent of the money realized from the sale of Christmas Seals stays in communities where it is raised, while the other five per cent goes to help finance the work on a nation-wide scale.

Tuberculosis, as seventh in the list of causes of death in America, cannot be ignored. It is a public enemy, causing ill health and death, draining needed national resources.

But to tell the story of its ravages is only part of the situation. Heart disease and cancer kill more people each year than does tuberculosis, but we do not yet know how to combat heart disease and cancer as we do tuberculosis. Dr. Thomas Parran, surgeon general of the U. S. Public Health Service, has pointed out the fact that our medical knowledge is now sufficient to enable us to stamp out the disease once and for all.

To do that would, of course, cost money. But it would save the money now spent annually to care for the victims of the disease. That bill is staggering.

Fortunately, the death rate from tuberculosis is not as large as it once was. It has been cut 75 per cent in the United States since the first sale of Christmas Seals in 1907. But the emphasis should be placed on what remains to be done, rather than on what has been done.

The disease is still the chief killer in the age group between 15 and 45, the group most vital for the military defense of the nation.

The problem of tuberculosis must be attacked from many angles: the treatment of known cases, the discovery of cases that are now going untreated, and the problem of seeing that existing cases no longer serve as centers of infection from which new cases might arise.

Particular attention must be paid today to the problem of tuberculosis in the armed forces of the nation. It is extremely important that this disease be kept out of the army and the navy. But merely to reject from service a man who has tuberculosis does not solve the problem of what to do with the man. He needs treatment and rehabilitation.

(Continued on Page 20)

(Continued from Page 6)

A similar problem is faced in industry where the increasing tempo of industry and its importance to national defense make tuberculosis as important a problem as it is for the armed forces.

The problem of locating unknown cases of tuberculosis is the problem of carrying on constant search with the aid of the tuberculin test and the X-ray.

Medical men are now certain that every case of tuberculosis begins by contact with another case. The danger of catching the disease by casual contact with a person who has it is slight, but repeated close contact is almost certain to bring on the disease. For this reason, in many cities, a year-round effort at early diagnosis is made in the public schools and among other groups.

The purchase of Christmas Seals appeals to every humanitarian impulse of the human soul. Today, it appeals to every patriotic impulse as well. For the sake of the sick and suffering and to make our nation strong, buy Christmas Seals this year!

---